

South Dakota Board of Education
Department of Education
Notice of Public Hearing to Adopt Rules

A public hearing will be held in Rm 111 at the MTI Technology Center located at 1800 East Spruce in Mitchell on September 24, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. CDT to consider the adoption and amendment of proposed administrative rules numbered:

§§ 24:43:02:08, 24:43:01:01, 24:43:02:02, 24:43:09:03, 24:15:03:10, and 24:15:03:08

The effect of the rules is to allow school service specialists, ie, counselors, speech language pathologists, library media specialists, school psychologists, school social workers, special education directors, and curriculum directors, to add a teaching program to their current certificate upon completion of a full degree, to require that non-public and tribal schools follow the same standards for accreditation, and that all schools submit a “plan of intent” for staff that are not properly certified or qualified to teach in all content areas.

The reason for adopting the proposed amended rules is the current rules restrict school service specialists from adding teaching preparations on their certificates and many schools need staff to be adaptable in their duties. The current requirements for accreditation are unclear as to the standards required for non-public schools these rules will set the same standard of rigor to give accreditation more credibility. Additionally, schools are required to submit plans for staff that only in core content areas as defined by NCLB and this will require that ALL content areas be viewed as important to have qualified staff.

Persons interested in presenting data, opinions, and arguments for or against the proposed rules may do so by appearing in person at the hearing or by sending them to the South Dakota Department of Education, 700 Governors Drive, Pierre, South Dakota 57501. Material sent by mail must reach the Department of Education by September 20, 2007 in order to be considered.

After the hearing, the board will consider all written and oral comments it receives on the proposed rules. The board may modify or amend a proposed rule at that time to include or exclude matters that are described in this notice.

Notice is further given to individuals with disabilities that this hearing is being held in a physically accessible place. Please notify the Department of Education at least 48 hours before the public hearing if you have special needs for which special arrangements must be made. The telephone number for making special arrangements is (605) 773-3426.

Copies of the proposed rules may be obtained without charge from the Internet at <http://doe.sd.gov/secretary/board/schedule.asp> or from the Department of Education, South Dakota Board of Education, 700 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501-2291